

Karl August Schmid and Anna Landert Schmid

by Bp. Robert Schmid

This is a short sketch of the lives of Karl A. Schmid and Anna Landert Schmid of Bern, Canton of Zurich, Switzerland. They embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in 1880 after which they moved from Berg to the city of Schaffhausen near the Rhine Falls, where father engaged in his occupation as a tailor. They entertained many of the elders from Zion during the six years they lived in the above city.

Eight children were born to them, seven in Switzerland and one, named Joseph, who was born in Paris, Idaho. This son died one month after his birth. Other children were Charles, Anna, Mary Robert, Emma and August.

The family had a great desire to gather with the Saints in Zion, but owing to their limited finances they could not gather enough money for all to emigrate to Zion at the same time. Ways and means were afforded to them to come at different times. Anna, aged 16 and Mary, aged 11, came to Zion in August, 1883. This was a sad parting for the parents of both of these young girls. To leave their family, their home and come to a new country where they would cast their lot among strangers in a strange land took courage, and was done only because of their love for the Gospel.

The girls came to Paris, Idaho where Anna stayed with Brother and Sister John Norton. Mary stayed with Brother and Sister W. N. B. Shepherd. She stayed with them for nearly three years. Anna moved to Bern where she found employment at the home of Brother David Kunz where she worked in a dairy. There she earned enough money to send some to her parents from time to time, and by 1886 she had sent sufficient with that which her father had for them to emigrate to Zion.

In the spring of 1884 Charles was able to get sufficient means for him to come to Zion. He was then only 19 years of age. He too worked at the tailor trade. It was difficult and sad again for our parents to see him go and to bid him goodbye not knowing when they would see him again. He worked in and around Paris for a while, then in Evanston, Wyoming and later in Omaha, Nebraska. He was knocked about considerably. Some of our own people didn't treat him as good as they should have. In fact, he said that he obtained better and kindlier treatment among people not of our faith than he did from some within the church. This became quite a stumbling block to him.

In 1885 Elder Jacob Hafen of Mt. Pleasant, Utah told father and mother he would like to take Robert with him and would give him a home in Utah until such time that his parents and the rest of the family could get enough means to go to Zion. Mother objected immediately. She would not consent to let Robert go. She said that she already had three children in America and she didn't know whether she would ever see them again. Life, she said, was too uncertain, and she couldn't see another of her children leave their home. Robert was enthusiastic about going to Zion and would have readily gone with this good elder, but his mother would not permit it.

Sometime later someone put \$40.00 in the Emigration fund for Robert and it was left there so that in the year 1886 in the month of May, the family was able to emigrate to Zion with a great company of Saints from all over Switzerland. Some German Saints, a large company of English Saints and some Scandinavian members came to America together.

In the city of Basil, Switzerland, the family met and visited with Elder John Kunz III and Elder David Kunz whom they had entertained many times in their home in Schaffhaussen. The family left their native Switzerland on May 17, 1886, and arrived in Montpelier June 9. They crossed the Atlantic Ocean on the Steamship Nevada. They were on board ship eleven days.

When they arrived in Montpelier they were met by Brother William J. Kunz and his Uncle Will Kunz who escorted the family to Bern where Sister Annie met us. Great was our joy in reuniting with one another. We were royally entertained at the home of Sister Louisa Kunz, wife of David Kunz who was still in Switzerland on a mission, and also by Uncle Will and Mary Ann Roberts Kunz. We stayed under their hospitable roof for a week when Grandpa John Kunz moved us to Paris, Idaho where we met Sister Mary again. She could not understand a word of German anymore, but, of course, it soon came to her again. Both father and mother wept with joy in this happy reunion and meeting. In a month or two Brother Charlie came from Evanston thus completing a happy family reunion. We lived in a little house of Conrad Vatterlaus in the First Ward for a month or two when father bought a house and lot in the Second Ward on Main Street from Brother Walter Hodge.

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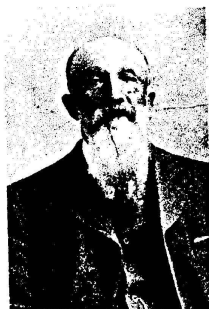
The above was written by Robert Schmid prior to March 4, 1947 at which time it was written by Amy K. Kunz in her Family Record book.

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Descendents of Karl August and Anna Landert Schmid
as of February 1, 1971

<u>Children</u>	<u>Grand Children</u>	<u>2nd Gr. Children</u>	<u>3rd Gr. Grand Children</u>	<u>Sub-totals Descendents</u>	
Charles Schmid	5	11	32	4	53
Anna S. Kunz	11	33	89	32	166
William Schmid					1
Mary S. Kunz	12	25	50	12	100
Robert Schmid	13	38	2		54
Emma S. Thornton					1
August Schmid	4	4	2		11
Joseph Schmid	—	—	—	—	1
8	45	111	175	48	387

Above compiled by: John Schmid
Ivins Schmid
Verona Hayes
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LIFE SKETCH OF ANNA LANDERT SCHMID

by Verona Schmid Hayes, Granddaughter*

July 10, 1953

Anna Landert, daughter of Hans Jacob Landert, and Anna Baur Landert, was born May 4, 1843, at Rorbas, Canton of Zurich, Switzerland.

She was born of humble poor parents, learning early in life the need to work and save. She was taught the principle of industry early in life. Her parents were staunch members of the Lutheran Church who regarded such habits as drinking, card playing and other habits that are not of good character building, as very evil. When Anna was sixteen years of age, she was baptized and confirmed a member of the Lutheran Church. She sincerely and devotedly believed in her religion.

During her early years of womanhood, she learned the art of silk weaving and handiwork in textile mills. The ability to weave and spin, to sew and mend, that she acquired as a young woman, proved very helpful throughout her life for she made much use of this ability.

At the age of twenty-one on January 18, 1864, she married Karl August Schmid in Rorbas, Zurich, Switzerland. He was a tailor by trade. During their married life in Switzerland, they lived in Berg/Irchel, Rorbas, and Schaffhausen. In each of these places he followed his trade of tailoring, but made only enough to keep his family and unable to accumulate but little savings. His wife's experience in textile mills gave her an opportunity to help along with keeping her home and raising her family.

Her first son christened Karl, later called Charles, was born near Berg/Irchel in a small town known as Frienstein. The next four children, Anna, William, Mary and Robert, were born at Berg/Irchel, Zurich, Switzerland. William lived scarcely two weeks. From Berg/Irchel, they moved to Rorbas where the sixth child a daughter, Emma, was born. From Rorbas they moved to Schaffhausen, Canton of Schaffhausen. Here their seventh child a son, August, was born.

During these years they had been visited on several occasions by elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The elders had called at their home on several occasions and talked to them concerning the gospel. Anna's husband, Karl, quite readily recognized that the elders had something different and outstanding in their belief. He leaned very much toward their teachings, but Anna couldn't seem to see as he did. Her membership in her church still seemed satisfactory to her needs.

It was through the efforts of a local elder, who later was able to come to Zion himself, that the spark was touched that caused Anna to become interested in the truths that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had to offer. Elder Henry Stocker, who later came to live in Paris, Idaho called at her home one evening. Anna and the small children were at home. Her husband had not arrived home from his work. Her youngest child at the time was just two weeks old. She in the course of the conversation told Elder Stocker that she planned soon to have the baby baptized and confirmed, baptism being by sprinkling, in the Lutheran church. Elder Stocker told her it was not necessary to baptize infants, and sprinkling wasn't the correct method of baptism. She seemed cool toward his teachings, and insisted that it must be done. As he was about to leave, he asked her if she would object to his kneeling with her and the children in prayer. She

*Based on information provided by my Uncle Robert Schmid and Aunt Emma Schmid Thornton.

agreed to do so, and so knelt with her children and Elder Stocker while he offered prayer. Later in relating this to her family, she said that she believed she would never forget the wonderful prayer that he offered and how deeply it impressed her. It was as if the faith that he had was passed on to her. She became more ready to accept the principles that the Church had to offer. His whole-hearted desire to give this truth to others was responsible for her acceptance of the Gospel. Consequently, on June 25, 1880 she was baptized a member of the Church by Elder Ferdinand Oberhansli. He had baptized her husband previously on May 26, 1880.

After their baptism into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Anna and Karl opened their home to the missionaries to hold gatherings of the saints. They truly enjoyed the fellowship and spirit that was brought into their home by the elders.

They desired very much to emigrate to Zion, but due to financial difficulties, they couldn't see that this would be possible for them. However, through careful savings, two of their children, Anna and Mary, were able to leave for their new destination in America on August 22, 1883. They were brought to this country in company with L.D.S. missionaries who looked out for them on this long strange journey. They came to Paris, Bear Lake County, Idaho, where they were placed in homes and were able to work for their living. This was a difficult separation for them and their parents. Had it not been for their firm testimony of the Gospel and the knowledge that they were all working for the same goal, that of joining their children as soon as possible in this new home, they would not have been able to do it. On the 11th of May, 1884, their eldest son, Karl, also left for America. He joined his sisters or was near at work in the same locality.

Finally, on May 17, 1886, Karl August and his wife, Anna, and the three small children, Robert age 11, Emma age 6, and August age 2, left their native Switzerland to come to Zion and be reunited with the rest of their family. Surely theirs must have been mixed emotions at this leave taking, for they were leaving all those dear to them on both sides of their family. They truly were trusting in the Lord for their future. They knew they had accepted the truths of the Gospel, and their one great desire was to join the Saints in Zion that they might more fully enjoy the blessings derived therefrom.

They sailed from Liverpool, England on the ship, Nevada. Again they were in the company of missionaries returning home from their missions. On June 9, 1886, they arrived in Montpelier, Bear Lake County, Idaho. They were taken at first to Bern, a few miles from Montpelier, where they stayed for a week, then moved to Paris where they resided in the Paris First Ward for three months. Being reunited with their children was a great blessing to them for all had spent many lonely hours apart. They then bought a home in the Paris Second Ward. Here Anna and her children were able to start true American living. Her husband was again able to take up his trade of tailoring. The children started school and began getting accustomed to their new surroundings. It was here on August 30, 1887 that Anna gave birth to her eighth child, a son whom they named Joseph. This baby, however, was only permitted to stay with them until October 4, 1887 when he died.

On March 27, 1899, they sold their home in Paris and bought a ranch at Slug Creek, Caribou County, Idaho. It was located about seventeen miles northeast of Georgetown. It must have seemed, at first, a rather lonely place as there were no neighbors, except on adjoining ranches several miles apart. After having lived in populated cities and towns all their lives, this must have been a drastic change. However, they made it home just as they had done in every place they had lived. They lived for each other and their children. They had bought the ranch so their boys could have work and be at home.

The little log home they moved into was kept spotlessly clean and tidy by Anna as she had always done in her other homes. Her husband and sons, Robert and August, went into the cattle and sheep business. She and her daughter, Emma, who was still at home, cared for the home. They washed and corded wool and spun it into yarn. From this, Anna and her daughter would knit socks and mittens for the boys. The boys never knew what it was like to be without them. Anna didn't believe in being idle. At the time of her death, she left a flour sack full of knitted mittens and socks which provided for the needs of her husband and sons for a long time.

From eggs gathered from her chickens, she made home-made noodles which she stored in flour sacks. She exemplified thrift and savings in all that she did. Dr. Ellis Kackley, years later, told me that he was called to go to the Schmid ranch at one time due to illness of a member of the family. Upon arriving at the ranch with Robert and August, he noted how their mother, Anna, carefully wound the string off the packages they had bought and into a nice firm ball then laid it away in its accustomed place where it would be when needed.

The Schmid home and ranch was a haven for many travelers. They were located in a sheep grazing and cattle country. Many hungry and tired travelers called at their door and were never turned away. They were always invited in and fed with the family. Anna was loved for her kind-hearted hospitality which was also expressed by her husband. In her heart and every day life she truly lived the principle that our Heavenly Father taught: "In as much as ye do it unto the least of these my brothers, ye do it unto me."

Anna enjoyed having her family around her. Her grandchildren were a great source of joy and happiness to her and she in turn was to them. Her sense of humor gave them many happy hours. They enjoyed having her read to them. When she mis-pronounced English words, she would laugh about it with them and go on reading in her broken English. She in turn was amused when they would try to repeat the words as she pronounced them.

After moving to the Slug Creek ranch, Anna and Karl and their family were members of the Georgetown Ward, but their home was seventeen miles from the ward, and they were often unable to attend. However, on Sundays they held meetings among themselves and during the summer families from Georgetown would often drive to the ranch to spend the weekend and would join with them on Sunday in their home worship.

Thus her life was lived simply and humbly. She was ever grateful for the blessings the Lord had given her and her family. She was an inspiration to her family, and her memory lingers on today in all its dearness.

On July 4, 1911, Anna died at her ranch home at Slug Creek at the age of 68. Her funeral service was held in the Georgetown Ward and burial was in the Georgetown cemetery in Georgetown, Idaho.





Illustration 1: Karl August Schmid and Anna Landert Schmid Portrait Courtesy of Dianne Steckler Rasi-Koskinen